

Message Text

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42

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAM-01 AID-05

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /098 W

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R 050520Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4241

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

AMCONSUL MEDAN

UNCLAS JAKARTA 5922

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ID, PO, PT, AS

SUBJ: PORTUGUESE TIMOR (PT): PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATION
VISITS JAKARTA; MALIK RETURNS

REF: JAKARTA 5787

1. FOUR-MAN DELEGATION OF "PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF EAST TIMOR"(PGET) STOPPED OFF IN JAKARTA EN ROUTE BACK TO DILI FROM ATTENDANCE AT UNSC TIMOR DEBATE. DELEGATION HEADED BY APODETI LEADER MARIA GONCALVES, WITH MEMBERS MARIO CARRASCALAO AND FORMER FRETELIN FIGURES DR. JOSE GONCALVES AND PEDRO SOARES. GROUP HAD MET WITH UN ENVOY WINSPEARE GUICCIARDI IN GENEVA.

2. IN PRESS CONFERENCE IN JAKARTA MAY 4, CARRASCALAO AS GROUP SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED PLANNED INTEGRATION OF PT WITH INDONESIA BY AUGUST 17 INDONESIAN NATIONAL DAY, AND SAID PETITION FOR INTEGRATION WOULD BE RATIFIED BY "EAST TIMOR PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY" NOW BEING FORMED. CARRASCALAO SAID
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ASSEMBLY WOULD COMPRISE 400-500 MEMBERS, MOSTLY TRADITIONAL

TRIBAL CHIEFS BUT ALSO INCLUDING REPRESENTATIVES SELECTED BY INHABITANTS OF LARGER CITIES SUCH AS DILI AND BACAU. CARRASCALAO EXPLAINED LACK OF DIRECT REFERENDUM OR SELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES IN COUNTRYSIDE BY CITING 90-0/0 ILLITERACY OF POPULATION, TRADITION OF DECISION-MAKING FOR PEOPLE BY TRIBAL LEADERS, AND TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS WHICH WOULD HINDER CONDUCT OF REFERENDUM. CARRASCALAO SAID ASSEMBLY WOULD MEET WITHIN TWO MONTHS.

3. ON OTHER SUBJECTS, CARRASCALAO CONFIRMED THAT INDONESIAN ARMED PERSONNEL HAD BEGUN WITHDRAWALS FROM PT IN FEBRUARY AND THAT WITHDRAWALS WOULD CONTINUE, BUT NOTED THAT PT WOULD CONTINUE TO NEED CIVILIAN VOLUNTEERS TO FILL MEDICAL, TECHNICAL AND EDUCATIONAL POSITIONS VACATED BY PORTUGUESE. ASKED ABOUT DEFECTION FROM PRO-INDONESIAN COALITION OF KOTA PARTY LEADER JOSE MARTINS, CARRASCALAO DISMISSED MARTINS AS OPPORTUNIST WHOSE ONLY MOTIVATION WAS MONEY AND WHO HAD SPENT ONLY A FEW WEEKS IN TIMOR AFTER YEARS AS RESIDENT OF PORTUGAL. ON POSSIBLE FOLLOW-UP VISIT TO PT OF UN ENVOY WINSPEARE, CARRASCALAO SAID LATTER HAD NOT INDICATED TO PGET DELEGATION WHEN VISIT MIGHT TAKE PLACE.

4. GOI FONMIN MALIK MEANWHILE RETURNED FROM VISIT TO FRANCE MAY 4 AND IN AIRPORT INTERVIEW COMMENTED THAT PGET WOULD BE "JUSTIFIED" IN FIRING UPONPROPOSED AUSTRALIAN SHIP BRINGIN AID TO PT IF LATTER ENTERES PT WATERS WITHOUT PERMISSION. MALIK ALSO OPINED THAT IF JOSE MARTINS ABANDONED HIS "TREASON", HE WOULD BE ACCEPTED BACK INTO THE PGET.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERIM GOVERNMENT, MEETING DELEGATIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JAKART05922
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760173-0070
From: JAKARTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760589/aaaacykj.tel
Line Count: 92
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 JAKARTA 5787
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUN 2004 by wolfsd>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2004 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PORTUGUESE TIMOR (PT): PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT DELEGATION VISITS JAKARTA; MALIK RETURNS
TAGS: PFOR, ID, PO, PT, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006